

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are all the claims pending in the application.

Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1, 3, 5 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ogawa (U.S. Patent No. 6,492,119).

Claims 2, 4, 6 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ogawa (U.S. Patent 6,492,119) in view of Ogura (U.S. 2002/0061534).

The Applicants traverse the rejections and request reconsideration.

Rejections based on Section 112, second paragraph

The Applicants amend the claims to overcome the notes of section 112 rejections.

Rejections based on Prior Art

Rejection of claims 1, 3, 5 and 7 under section 102(b) based on Ogawa

The Applicants respectfully submit that Ogawa is completely different from the present invention. Ogawa simply has a single film-shaped porous body and on the porous body there are hot-spots where test substances are fixed. It does not have a base plate with a plurality of holes.

What the Examiner refers to as the base plate is actually the film-shaped porous body itself. In paragraph 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner refers to item 2 as the base plate. Fig. 1 of Ogawa clearly shows item 2. Enlarged view of item 2 is then shown in Fig. 2 with the pores. Therefore, if item 2 is equivalent to the base plate, the pores in Ogawa are actually in the base

plate itself and not in absorptive regions in the holes in the base plate as required by the present invention. The Examiner then refers to item 3 of Ogawa as holes. Items 3 of Ogawa are not holes. They are simple localized regions (or spots) on the surface of the film-shaped body 2.

In other words, Ogawa discloses a single film shaped porous substance 2 without any holes. On the surface of this film-shaped body, localized hot-spots are provided where test substances are fixed. The areas of large and smaller porous diameters refer to pores in the film shaped substance itself.

On the other hand, in the present invention, there is a base plate 2 with holes 3. A porous adsorptive substance is provided in each of these holes to form adsorptive regions 4. The limitations related to the pore diameter refer to the pores in the adsorptive materials that are provided in each of the holes of the base plate.

Claim 1 is not anticipated at least because of the clear structural differences noted above.

Claims 3, 5, and 7 depend on claim 1, and therefore, should be allowable at least for the same reasons.

Rejection of claims 2, 4, 6, 8 and 9 under section 103 based on Ogawa and Ogura

The above claims are dependent on claim 1, and therefore, the reasons for patentability of claim 1 are equally valid for these claims.

Further, Ogura does not overcome the noted deficiencies in the teachings of Ogawa.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Patent Application No.: 10/800,676

Attorney Docket No.: Q80045

Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



Chid S. Iyer
Registration No. 43,355

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

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